

There are beaches, and then, there is Fort DeSoto Park. This expansive park and historic site offers one of the most stunning beaches in Florida. With miles of serene and sandy shoreline, this county park covers 5 islands and 1,136 acres on the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay.

Remember the time when we traveled to the beach just to be able to lay back, read a book, take a hike and enjoy a picnic? This trip is for you. Completely relax at a gorgeous beach that was rated #1 by TripAdvisor in 2009 without running to shops and restaurants. Concessions are not always available at Ft DeSoto.

As an added option take a short trip to enjoy a self guided tour of the fort, visit the gift shop and view the Gulf from the top of the Fort. It is not a large Fort but it has some interesting historical facts, cannons, and a fabulous view from the top that will interest the history buffs.

**AMENITIES:** The North Beach at Fort De Soto Park has restrooms and changing rooms which are located near the pavilion and the small concession stand. The concession stand offers very little and many times is unable to open. Alcohol is not allowed on the beach, however, food and coolers are. Chair and umbrella rentals are very limited and very often are not available. There is no lifeguard on duty.

**Info Links:** ( Concessions & Rentals may be closed)

[https://www.pinellascounty.org/park/05\\_ft\\_desoto.htm](https://www.pinellascounty.org/park/05_ft_desoto.htm)

<https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/article/fort-de-soto-park>

<https://www.floridarambler.com/tampa-bay-getaways/fort-desoto-park/>